



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,885	10/24/2003	Praveen Seshadri	MS306692.1	1922
27195 7590 12/03/2007 AMIN. TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP 24TH FLOOR, NATIONAL CITY CENTER 1900 EAST NINTH STREET CLEVELAND, OH 44114			EXAMINER CHOW, CHIH CHING	
			ART UNIT 2191	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 12/03/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

docket1@thepatentattorneys.com  
hholmes@thepatentattorneys.com  
osteuball@thepatentattorneys.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/692,885	Applicant(s) SESHADRI ET AL.	
	Examiner Chih-Ching Chow	Art Unit 2191	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendment dated October 08, 2007
2. Per Applicants' request, independent claims 1, 18, 30, and 31 have been amended.
3. Claims 1-37 remain pending.
4. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 8, 2007 has been entered.

### Double Patenting

5. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

6. Claims in the current application are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 18 of US 2005/0091269 A1. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other, from the comparison listed in the following table:

<b>Current Application (10/692,885) US 2005/0091184 A1</b>	<b>Co-Application (10/693,735) US 2005/0091269 A1</b>
<b>Claims</b>	<b>Claim 18</b>
<p>1. A system for organizing data, comprising: a data storage component; a plurality of folders comprising links to particular data files stored in the data storage component, the content of the folders controlled at least in part by end-user specified preferences, the folders include any type of link collection defined by a set of relationships; and</p> <p>2. The system of claim 1, the data storage component stores schematized data.</p> <p>8. The system of claim 6, the preferences specified in accordance with a developer specified schema.</p>	<p>A method for employing preferences comprising: specifying user preferences regarding an information agent application based on a developer schema; storing the preferences in one or more tables in a data store; querying the tables in the data store upon occurrence of an event; producing a result table;</p>

<p>an assessor that effectuates actions and conditions associated with the content of the folders across multiple domains via resolve or link values associated with two or more different executable applications.</p> <p>3. The system of claim 1, the preferences are specified using a plurality of ON (event) IF (condition) THEN (action) statements and one or more Boolean operators.</p> <p>6. The system of claim 1, the preferences specify a plurality of conditions and actions.</p>	<p>and executing actions based on the results table, wherein user preferences are specified by utilizing a one-at-a-time declarative programming model, wherein user preferences are specified</p> <p>using one or more On-event-If-Then statements and Boolean operators to specify conditions and actions, wherein querying the tables comprises executing query_ language statements, the developer schema is an XML schema.</p>
---	---

Claims of current application is anticipated by co-application claim 18 in that co-application claim 18 contains all the limitations of the current application claims. Claims of the current application therefore is not patentably distinct from co-application claim 18 and as such is unpatentable for obvious-type double patenting.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

7. Claim 30 in the current application are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 18 of US **2005/0091269 A1**. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other, from the comparison listed in the following table:

<b>Current Application (10/692,885)</b> <b>US 2005/0091184 A1</b>	<b>Co-Application (10/693,735)</b> <b>US 2005/0091269 A1</b>
<b>Claim 30</b>	<b>Claim 18</b>
<p>A method of personalizing computers functionality, comprising:</p> <p>writing user preferences with respect to one or more named groups of data in accordance with a developer schema;</p> <p>executing user preferences in response to an event; and</p>	<p>A method for employing preferences comprising:</p> <p>specifying user preferences regarding an information agent application based on a developer schema;</p> <p>storing the preferences in one or more tables in a data store; querying the tables in the data store upon occurrence of an event; producing a result table;</p>
<p>taking action based on a conditionally valid preference that relates to two or more item domains associated with various executable applications.</p>	<p>and executing actions based on the results table, wherein user preferences are specified by utilizing a one-at-a-time declarative programming model, wherein user preferences are specified</p> <p>using one or more On-event-If-Then statements and Boolean operators to specify conditions and actions, wherein querying the tables comprises executing query_ language statements, the developer schema is an XML schema.</p>

Claim 30 of current application is anticipated by co-application claim 18 in that co-application claim 18 contains all the limitations of the current application claim 30. Claim 30 of the current application therefore is not patentably distinct from co-application claim 18 and as such is unpatentable for obvious-type double patenting.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

8. Claim 1 is rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of US Patent No. 7,137,099. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other, from the comparison listed in a table listed below.

<b>Co-Application (10/692,885) US 2005/0091184 A1</b>	<b>US Patent No. 7,137,099</b>
<b>Claim 1</b>	<b>Claim 1</b>
<p>A system for organizing data, comprising:  a data storage component;  a plurality of folders comprising links to particular data files stored in the data storage component, the content of the folders controlled at least in part by end-user specified preferences, the folders include any type of link collection defined by a set of relationships; and</p>	<p>A system for dynamically extending application preference classes comprising:  a first executable application including functions that are registered in a registry component; an extension component tat reads function data from the registry component and binds a second executable application to the first executable application, wherein second application preference class declarations are bound to the functions provided by the first executable application, and</p>
<p>an assessor that effectuates actions and conditions associated with the content of the folders across multiple domains via resolve or link values associated with two or more different executable applications.</p>	<p>an accessor component that facilitates relating information across different domains, via at least one of a resolve and link for values associated with a bind of the first executable application and the second executable application.</p>

This is a non-provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have in fact been patented.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 recites “an **assessor** that effectuates actions and conditions associated with the content of the folders across multiple domains via resolve or link values associated with two or more different executable applications.”, wherein the word ‘**assessor**’ is not defined in the Specification, the related definition is in paragraph [0136], “**Accessor** component 520 is operable to search though all accessible domains 520, 530, and 540 to try and resolve or link to the value(s) associated with the members of the group specified by the input constant.” The examiner believes the claim language should be ‘**an accessor**’ not “an assessor”.

9. Claims 2-17 depend on claim 1, they are rejected under 35 USC § 112 (2) for the same reason.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 1, 2, 5-16, 18, 21, and 23-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Knutson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,746).



Art Unit: 2191

12. Knutson anticipates independent claim 1 by the following:

“...a data storage component...” at col. 7, lines 53-54.

“...a plurality of folders comprising links to particular data files stored in the data storage component...” at col. 8, lines 1-6, col. 44, lines 13-14, col. 36, lines 30-32, and col. 7, lines 53-54.

“...the content of the folders controlled at least in part...” at col. 43, lines 66-67, col. 8, lines 1-6, and col. 45, lines 30-31.

“... by end-user specified preferences...” at col. 62, lines 36-37 and col. 8, lines 11-13.

“...the folders include any type of link collection defined by a set of relationships...” at col. 8, lines 1-6, col. 44, lines 13-14, and col. 12, lines 58-63.

“... an assessor that effectuates actions and conditions associated with the content of the folders across multiple domains via resolve or link values associated with two or more different executable applications.” at col. 1, lines 44-45, col. 28, lines 18-32, and col. 29, lines 60-62.

Independent claim 1 is anticipated in Figures 1 and 2. Figure 1 consists of three computers designated by numbers 30, 32, and 34. The input device (21) provides an interface for end-users to enter their preferences to the Folder Management Subsystem (54), which resides in the Client Subsystem (12). Computer 32 contains three subsystems and provides a link to computer 34, which contains the Data Warehouse (24), which is a data storage component.

13. As per claim 18, the “...a data storage component...,” is taught by Knutson at col. 7, lines 53-54, the “...plurality of data containers storing pointers to sections of data ....” is taught by Knutson at col. 12, lines 9-12, col. 28, lines 63-67, and col. 62, lines 26-28, the “...stored on the data storage component...” is taught by Knutson at col. 7, lines 53-54, and the “...content of the data containers being controlled by end-user programs ....” is

Art Unit: 2191

taught by Knutson at col. 43, lines 66-67, col. 12, lines 9-12, col. 45, lines 30-31, and col. 4, lines 48-49, and col. 6, lines 56-59.

And the “a facility that utilizes resolve or link values associated with disparate end-user programs to effectuate actions and conditions associated with the sections of data across a plurality of domains.” See Knutson’s col. 1, lines 44-45, col. 28, lines 18-32, and col. 29, lines 60-62.

14. As per claim 2, the “...data storage component stores schematized data...,” is taught by Knutson at col. 7, lines 53-54 and col. 7, lines 11-13.

15. As per claim 5, the “... preferences are constructed automatically based on inferences ....” is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13, col. 20, lines 19-21, and col. 30, lines 55-58; and the “... made from user activity...,” is taught by Knutson at col. 7, lines 2-4 and col. 6, lines 51-55.

16. As per claim 6, the “... preferences specify a plurality of conditions and actions...,” is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13, col. 7, lines 16-19, and col. 22, lines 22-31.

17. As per claim 7, the “...one of the conditions relates to user context...,” is taught by Knutson at col. 7, lines 16-19 and col. 5, lines 25-27. For claim 7, the term “background” is used to suggest the term context”.

18. As per claim 8, the “...preferences specified in accordance with a developer specified schema... ,” is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13, col. 5, lines 56-59, col. 3, lines 48-53, and col. 7, lines 11-13. For claim 8, the term “analyst” is used to suggest the term “developer”.

Art Unit: 2191

19. As per claim 9, the "... preferences and schema are stored in tables in the data storage component..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13, col. 7, lines 11-13, col. 13, lines 8-9, and col. 7, lines 53-54.

20. As per claim 10, the "... preferences are evaluated upon the occurrence of an event..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13, col. 51, lines 18-19, and col. 44, lines 62-64.

21. As per claim 11, the "... preferences are evaluated in a set oriented fashion utilizing a query language..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-163, col. 51, lines 18-19, and col. 6, lines 32-36.

22. As per claim 12, the "...one or more actions are executed in accordance with a preference ...." is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 40, lines 63-65, and col. 8, lines 11-13 and the "...when the preference conditions are satisfied..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13 and the "...when the preference conditions are satisfied..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13 and col. 61, col. 17-19.

23. As per claim 13, the "...action comprises creating a link in a folder..." is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 7, lines 11-13, col. 44, lines 13-14, and col. 8, lines 1-6.

24. As per claim 14, the "...action comprises excluding a link from a folder..." is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 32, lines 15-17, col. 44, lines 13-14, and col. 8, lines 1-6. For claim 14, the term "remove" is used to suggest the term "exclude".

Art Unit: 2191

25. As per claim 15, the "...action comprises deleting a link in one folder ...." is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 32, lines 15-17, col. 44, lines 13-14, and col. 8, lines 1-6 and the "...and recreating a link in another folder...", is taught by Knutson at col. 7, lines 11-13, col. 44, lines 13-14, and col. 8, lines 1-6.

26. As per claims 16 and 26, the "... action comprises notifying the user...", is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31 and col. 3, lines 38-39.

27. As per claim 21, the "...end-user programs are composed using a graphical user interface...", is taught by Knutson at col. 6, lines 56-59, col. 41, lines 66- 67, and col. 5, lines 56-59. For claim 21, the term "written" is used to suggest the term "composed".

28. As per claim 23, the "...end-user programs utilize historical information in stored in a data container...", is taught by Knutson at col. 6, lines 56-59, col. 6, lines 51- 55, and col. 12, lines 10-12.

29. As per claim 24, the "...execution of the end-user program...", is taught by Knutson at col. 40, lines 63-65 and col. 6, lines 56-59 and the "...comprises executing a query on structured data to produce a result table...", is taught by Knutson at col. 40, lines 63-65, col. 8, lines 42-43, col. 39, lines 24-26, and col. 6, lines 11-14.

30. As per claim 25, the "...one or more actions are taken based on the data in the result table...", is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31 and col. 6, lines 11-14.

31. As per claim 27, the "...action includes adding a pointer to a data container...", is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 7, lines 63-67, col. 28, lines 63-67, and col. 12, lines 9-12.

32. As per claim 28, the "...action includes removing a pointer from a data container...", is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 32, lines 15-17, col. 28, lines 63-67, and col. 12. lines 9-12.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

33. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

34. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knutson as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Bailey ("On-Event-Condition-Action Language for XML").

35. As per claim 3, the "...preferences are specified...", is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13, but the "...using a plurality of ON (event)IF (condition)THEN (action) statements..." and the "...and one or more Boolean operators...", are not taught by Knutson.

However, Bailey teaches the use of on event if condition then action statements and the use of Boolean operators as follows"

"...On event if condition do actions. Rather than introducing yet another query language for XML, we use the XPath [32] and XQuery[33] languages to specify events, conditions and actions within our ECA rules. XPath is used in a number of W3C recommendations, such as XPointer, XSLT and XQuery itself, for selecting and matching parts of XML documents and so is well-suited to the requirements of ECA rules. XQuery is used in our ECA rules only where there is a need to be able to construct new fragments of XML. We define each of the components of our ECA rule language below, give some example rules, and describe the rule execution semantics..." at sec. 2.

Art Unit: 2191

"...The condition part of an ECA rule is either the constant TRUE, or one or more simple XPath expressions connected by the boolean connectives and, or, not..." at section 2.2.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Bailey with Knutson to use "on event if condition do actions" syntax and Boolean operators in order to use commonly accepted software systems and gain greater acceptance from potential users. Knutson and Bailey have related applications. They teach the use of computers, the use of databases, the use of networks, the use of markup languages, the use of schema, the use of pointers, and the use of relationships. Knutson provides data stores, folders, links, relationships, and preferences and Bailey provides "on event if condition do actions" syntax and Boolean operators.

36. As per claim 4, the "...preferences are specified utilizing a graphical user interface..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11-13 and col. 5, lines 56-59.

37. Claims 17 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knutson as applied to claims 1 and 18 above respectively, and further in view of Ku et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,532,471).

38. As per claim 17, the "...preferences..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 11- 13, the "...such that they can be dragged, dropped..." is taught by Knutson at col. 21, lines 20-23, the "...amongst folders..." is taught by Knutson at col. 8, lines 1-6, but the "... are manifested as physical entities..." and the "...cut, and pasted..." are not taught by Knutson.

However, Ku teaches the cutting and pasting of physical entities as follows:

"...Objects are actually abstractions of physical entities or conceptual items..." at col. 5, lines 50-51.

"...The user may review the full interface definition language of the object, save the IDL or cut-and-paste it to another program such as a code editor for compiling..." at col. 5, lines 32-35.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Ku with Knutson to cut and paste physical entities in order to use commonly accepted means of moving and copying information through a graphical user interface and gain greater acceptance from potential users. Knutson and Ku have related applications. They teach the use of computers, the use of databases, the use of networks, the use of pointers, the use of relationships, and the use of entities. Knutson provides data stores, folders, links, relationships, and preferences and Ku provides the cutting and pasting of physical entities.

39. As per claim 29, the "...end-user programs..." is taught by Knutson at col. 6, lines 56-59, the "...are manifested as physical entities..." is taught by Ku at col. 1, lines 50-51, the "...that end-users can drag, drop..." is taught by Knutson at col. 4, lines 49-50 and col. 21, lines 20-23, the "...cut, and paste..." is taught by Ku at col. 5, lines 32-35, and the "...within data containers..." is taught by Knutson at col. 12, lines 9-12.

40. Claims 19, 20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knutson as applied to claims 1 and 18 above respectively, and further in view of Thuraisingham (U.S. Patent No. 5,481,700).

41. As per claim 19, the "...end-user programs are written ...." is taught by Knutson at col. 6, lines 56-59 and col. 41, lines 66-67, but the "... using propositional logic..." is not taught by Knutson.

However, Thuraisingham teaches the use of propositional logic as follows:

"...In this section, we develop a propositional logic for multilevel environments..." at col. 4, lines 13-14.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Thuraisingham with Knutson to use propositional logic in order to use means of supporting multilevel databases and provide greater system utility for potential users. Knutson and Thuraisingham have related applications. They teach the use of computers, the use of databases, the use of networks, the use of schema, and the use of relationships. Knutson provides data stores, folders, links, relationships, and preferences and Thuraisingham provides propositional logic.

42. As per claim 20, the "...end-user programs are written..." is taught by Knutson at col. 6, lines 56-59 and col. 41, lines 66-67 and the "... utilizing predicate logic..." is taught by Thuraisingham at col. 7, lines 63-65 and col. 4, lines 13-14.

43. As per claim 22, the "...end-user programs are constrained..." is taught by Knutson at col. 6, lines 56-59 and col. 8, lines 65-67 and the "...by a logic schema..." is taught by Thuraisingham at col. 4, lines 13-14 and col. 11, lines 62-65.

44. Claims 30-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knutson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,746), Watters (U.S. Patent No. 6,490,718), and Saxe (U.S. Patent No. 6,343,376).

45. Knutson renders obvious independent claim 30 by the following:

"...writing user preferences..." at col. 15, lines 59-62 and col. 8, lines 11-13.

"...in accordance with a developer schema..." at col. 3, lines 48-53 and col. 3, lines 26-29.

"...executing user preferences in response to an event..." at col. 10, lines 25-26, col. 8, lines 11-13, col. 8, lines 53-54, and col. 44, lines 62-64.

In claim 30, the term "analyst" is used to suggest the term "developer".



Art Unit: 2191

And the "... taking action based on..... that relates to two or more item domains associated with various executable applications" at Knutson col. 64, lines 10-12.

Knutson does not teach the use of named groups of data and the use of conditionally valid preferences.

46. However, Watters teaches the use of named groups of data as follows:

"...with respect to one or more named groups of data..." at col. 1, lines 27-30.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Watters with Knutson to use named groups of data in order to associate control information with the groups of related data. Knutson and Watters have related applications. They teach the use of computers, the use of data files, the use of networks, and the use of entities. Knutson provides data stores, schema, events, and preferences and Watters provides named groups of data.

47. Knutson does not teach the use of conditionally valid preferences.

However, Saxe teaches the use of conditionally valid preferences as follows:

"...and taking action based on a conditionally valid preference..." at col. 10, lines 23-29, col. 1, lines 66-67, col. 2, lines 1-2, and col. 22, lines 36-39.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Saxe with Knutson and Watters to use conditionally valid preferences in order to use context to analyze potential actions upon occurrence of events. Knutson, Watters, and Saxe have related applications. They teach the use of computers and the use of data files and Knutson and Saxe teach the use of databases, the use of links, the use of pointers, the use of relationships and the taking of actions. Knutson provides data stores, schema, events, and preferences, Watters provides named groups of data, and Saxe provides conditionally valid preferences. In claim 30, the term "choice" is used to suggest

Art Unit: 2191

the term "preference".

48. As per claim 31, the "...events are received from a plurality of event sources....," is taught by Knutson at col. 44, lines 62-64, col. 15, lines 64-66, and col. 30, lines 10-13.

49. As per claim 32, the "...event source ...." is taught by Knutson at col. 44, lines 62-64 and col. 30, lines 10-13, the "...is a named group of data ...." is taught by Watters at col. 1, lines 27-30, and the "...and the event is a change in the data associated therewith....," is taught by Knutson at col. 44, lines 62-64, col. 31, lines 41-45, and col. 29, lines 56-59.

50. As per claim 33, the "... preference execution comprises translating end-user specified preferences into queries ...." is taught by Knutson at col. 40, lines 62-65, col. 6, lines 63-66, col. 62, lines 36-37, col. 8, lines 11-13, and col. 8, lines 41-43 and the "...and executing queries on structured data....," is taught by Knutson at col. 16, lines 32-35 and col. 39, lines 24-26.

51. As per claim 34, the "...named group of data ...." is taught by Watters at col. 1, lines 27-30 and the "...can be used as a constant argument to a condition or action...," is taught by Knutson at col. 16, lines 26-28, col. 17, lines 15-18, and col. 22, lines 22-31.

52. As per claim 35, the "...taking action corresponds to including a data file ...." is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 36, lines 43-45, and col. 36, lines 30-32 and the "... into a named group of data....," is taught by Watters at col. 1, lines 27-30.

53. As per claim 36, the "...taking action corresponds to excluding a data file....," is taught by Knutson at col. 22, lines 22-31, col. 32, lines 15-17, and col. 36, lines 30-32

Art Unit: 2191

and the "...from a named group of data....," is taught by Watters at col. 1, lines 27-30.

54. As per claim 37, the "...computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 32....," is taught by Knutson is Figure 27.

### **Conclusion**

55. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Bennett**, US 2002/0135614A1, discloses a method of presenting catered information to a user. An item to be output to the user is identified and sub-items are retrieved from at least one storage. The system builds output from the sub-items and presents the output to the user. User interface activity is recorded in storage and used to modify the user interface.

**Yamanoue**, US Patent No. 6,745,180, discloses a data supply controlling device comprises a data base for user data which stores user data matched with each user. The data base of user data can be queried in accordance with the user data so that a data server performs a search according to the query and stores the search results in a search result data base.

**Reisman**, US 2004/0031058 A1, discloses systems and methods for navigating hypermedia using multiple coordinated input/output device sets. Disclosed systems and methods allow a user and/or an author to control what resources are presented on which device sets (whether they are integrated or not), and provide for coordinating browsing activities to enable such a user interface to be employed across multiple independent

systems. And a method to transfer from the starting system to the ending system a link activation message that includes a state record and contains relevant link arc information. The state record contains essential information on the state of the browser and related activities on the starting system that can be used at the ending system to configure its browser and related context accordingly.

**Reed**, US Patent No. 6,757,710, discloses An automated communications system operates to transfer data, metadata and methods from a provider computer to a consumer computer through a communications network. The transferred information controls the communications relationship, including responses by the consumer computer, updating of information, and processes for future communications.

**Delo**, US Patent No. 6,606,618, discloses a relational installation database for storing data elements in the form of strings, objects, etc. is aliased with integer identifiers corresponding to each data element is disclosed.

**Omoigui**, US 2003/0126136, discloses an integrated implementation framework and resulting medium for knowledge retrieval, management, delivery and presentation. The system includes a first server component that is responsible for adding and maintaining domain-specific semantic information and a second server component that hosts semantic and other knowledge for use by the first server component that work together to provide context and time-sensitive semantic information retrieval services to clients operating a presentation platform via a communication medium.

**Shaughnessy**, US Patent No. 6,026,235, discloses development system having a monitor/profiler tool for monitoring functions in natively compiled software programs is described. According to the present invention, the monitor/profiler tool is constructed to

Art Unit: 2191

work directly on a natively compiled software application which only have debugging info.

**Walker**, US Patent No. 6,016,394, discloses a system and method for computer-assisted database management software creation of a target software application from a description known as a dictionary interoperating with a universal software application. The dictionary contents customize the universal application into the target software application created from a high-level dialog between an application designer and a graphical application editor.

56. The following summarizes the status of the claims:

35 USC § 102 rejection: Claims 1-2, 5-16, 18, 21, 23-28

35 USC § 103 rejection: Claims 3-4, 17, 19-20, 22, 29-37

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Ching Chow whose telephone number is 571-272-3693. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen can be reached on 571-272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **TC2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you

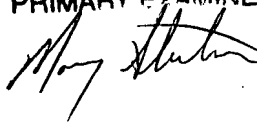
Art Unit: 2191

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chih-Ching Chow  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2191  
November 27, 2007

CC

MARY STEELMAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Steelman", written over the printed name and title.